

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IO/UN/BAPS:JCSAULS:G

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM GENEVA 14 MAR 75:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1794

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, AORG

SUBJ: GATT SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES

REF: GENEVA 1274

1. GATT D.G. LONG HAS PRODUCED RECOMMENDED TEMPORARY ACTION ON SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES PROMISED AT FEBRUARY 24 COUNCIL (REFTEL). DOCUMENT C/92, 14 MARCH, BEING POUCHED IO/OIC (BASS), EB/GCP (WILLIAMS) AND NORMAL WASHINGTON DISTRIBUTION ON MARCH 15.

2. KEY PARAGRAPHS READ:

"THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL PROPOSES THAT, FOR 1974, A REFUND TOTALLING SWF 514,409 BE MADE TO THE STAFF IN THE PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY AND ABOVE WHO WERE LISTED ON GATT'S PAYROLL IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR 1974 AS A PARTIAL INDEMNITY FOR LOSSES INCURRED DUE TO EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS. THE AMOUNTS TO BE REFUNDED HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY AN ACROSS-THE-BOARD PERCENT-
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AGE IN ORDER NOT TO EXCEED THAT PART OF THE 1974 YEAR-END

SURPLUS WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TO MAKE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE. THUS, THE PROVISION MADE BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES AT THEIR THIRTIETH SESSION, WHEN ADOPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON BODGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, FOR SWF 20,000

TO BE EARMARKED FOR PAYMENT IN 1975 TO THE STAFF ASSISTANCE FUND; FOR SWF 1,250,000 TO BE EARMARKED TOWARD 1975 INCOME; AND FOR THE BALANCE OF THE SURPLUS, AT THAT TIME ESTIMATED AT SWF 1,250,000, TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE BUILDING FUND, WOULD BE MAINTAINED. "FOR 1975, IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION AND AS A TEMPORARY, PARTIAL AD HOC SOLUTION, PENDING A POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT BY THE COMPETENT BODIES, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE SALARIES AND RELATED ALLOWANCES OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF BE CALCULATED AT THE RATE OF SWF 2.98/\$1. THIS RATE WAS USED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GATT 1975 BUDGET ESTIMATES AND, THEREFORE, THE PROPOSAL WOULD NOT ENTAIL THE ASSESSMENT OF ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS ON CONTRACTING PARTIES. SHOULD THE EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATE DRASTICALLY IN THE COURSE OF 1975, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WOULD WISH TO REVERT TO THIS MATTER."

3. MATTER IS NOT ON MARCH 24 COUNCIL AGENDA AND IT NOT YET CLEAR WHERE AND WHEN PROPOSAL WILL BE DISCUSSED. DALE UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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